



Homeland Security

FY 2015 Port Security Grant Program (PSGP)

Overview

As appropriated by the *Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2015* (Pub. L. No 114-4); the Port Security Grant Program (PSGP) is one of the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 grant programs that directly support maritime transportation infrastructure security activities. PSGP is one tool in the comprehensive set of measures authorized by Congress and implemented by the Administration to strengthen the

Nation's critical infrastructure against risks associated with potential terrorist attacks. The FY 2015 PSGP provides funds for transportation infrastructure security activities to implement Area Maritime Security Plans and facility security plans among port authorities, facility operators, and state and local government agencies required to provide port security services.

The FY 2015 PSGP plays an important role in the implementation of the National Preparedness System by supporting the building, sustainment, and delivery of core capabilities essential to achieving the National Preparedness Goal (the Goal) of a secure and resilient Nation. The FY 2015 PSGP's allowable costs support efforts to build and sustain core capabilities across the prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery mission areas.

In FY 2015, DHS will award \$100,000,000 to promote sustainable, risk-based efforts to protect critical port infrastructure from terrorism.

Funding

In FY 2015, the total amount of funds that will be distributed under this grant program is \$100,000,000. The FY 2015 PSGP is focused on supporting increased port-wide maritime security risk management; enhancing maritime domain awareness; supporting maritime security training and exercises; and to maintaining or reestablishing maritime security mitigation protocols that support port recovery and resiliency capabilities. PSGP investments must address U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) identified vulnerabilities in port security.

Eligibility

In FY 2015, PSGP will discontinue having two designated groupings; all port areas will be selected for funding through a competitive review process.

The following entities are specifically encouraged to apply:

- Owners or operators of federally-regulated terminals, facilities, U.S. inspected passenger vessels or ferries as defined in the Maritime Transportation Security Act (MTSA) and Title 33 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Parts 101, 104, 105, and 106.
- Members of an Area Maritime Security Committee, per 33 CFR Part 103, who are recognized as such by the U.S. Coast Guard's (USCG) Captain of the Port (COTP), and are required to provide port security services. Specifically, eligible applicants include port authorities, port police, local law enforcement agencies, port and local fire departments, and facility fire brigades that have jurisdictional authority to respond to incidents in the port.

Certain ferry systems are eligible to apply for FY 2015 PSGP funds. However, any ferry system receiving funds under the FY 2015 PSGP will not be eligible to participate under the FY 2015 Transit Security Grant Program (TSGP). Likewise, any ferry system that participates in the TSGP will not be eligible for funding under the PSGP.

Funding Guidelines

The FY 2015 PSGP will focus on strengthening governance integration; enhancing Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA); enhancing IED and Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear, Explosive (CBRNE) prevention, protection, mitigation, response, and recovery capabilities; Cybersecurity; port resilience and recovery capabilities; training and exercises; and Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) Implementation. A maximum of up to five percent (5%) of PSGP funds awarded is retainable by recipients for Management and Administration (M&A) associated with the grant award.

The period of performance for the PSGP is thirty-six (36) months from the date of award.

Key FY 2015 PSGP Changes

- **Group Designations:** There are no Port Area Group Designations in FY 2015. All Port Areas will be selected for funding through a competitive review process
- **Cost Match:** No distinction will be made between public and private sector applicants. All PSGP award recipients must provide a non-Federal match (cash or in-kind) supporting *at least 25 percent of the total project cost* for each proposed project. The FY 2015 PSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity includes some general exceptions to this requirement.
- **Cost Match Waivers:** Applicants requesting a cost-share waiver that does not demonstrate new, *post-award* difficulties and cost-share waivers submitted at the time of application will not be considered.
- **Requests for Small Boats with CBRNE Capabilities:** Vessels failing to identify CBRNE capabilities may be considered for funding under exceptional circumstances verified by the COTP. For a vessel to be considered a CBRNE platform, it must include one or more of following equipment: Radioisotope Identification Device (RIID), Radiation detection backpack(s), Boat-mounted Radiation detection system, or Personal Radiation Detector (PRD) in conjunction with a RIID, backpack, or vessel mounted system.

- **Period of Performance:** The period of performance is 36 months.

Application Process and Evaluation Criteria

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will conduct an initial review of all FY 2015 PSGP applications for completion. Field-level reviews will be conducted by the applicable COTP in coordination with the Director of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Maritime Administration's Gateway Office and appropriate personnel from the Area Maritime Security Committee (AMSC), as identified by the COTP. Field review project scores and prioritized lists will be submitted to FEMA for the national review process. The National Review Panel (NRP) will convene with subject matter experts from DHS and other federal partners to identify a final, prioritized list of eligible projects for funding. The NRP will conduct an initial review of the prioritized project listings for each port area submitted by the USCG's COTP to ensure that the proposed projects will accomplish intended risk mitigation goals. The NRP will validate and normalize the Field Review COTP Project Priority List and provide a master list of prioritized projects by port area. A risk-based algorithm will be applied to the NRP's validation and prioritized lists for each port area in all groups. The NRP then will evaluate and validate the consolidated and ranked project list resulting from the application of the algorithm and submit their determinations to FEMA and ultimately to the Secretary of Homeland Security for final approval.

PSGP Program Resources

There are a variety of resources available to address programmatic, technical, and financial questions, which can assist with the PSGP Program.

- The FY 2015 PSGP Notice of Funding Opportunity is located online at: <http://www.fema.gov/grants> as well as on <http://www.grants.gov>.
- For additional program-specific information, please contact the Centralized Scheduling and Information Desk (CSID) help line at (800) 368-6498 or AskCSID@dhs.gov. CSID hours of operation are from 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. EDT, Monday through Friday.
- For financial-related questions, including pre-and post-award administration and technical assistance, applicants may contact the FEMA Grant Programs Directorate Call Center at (866) 927-5646 or via e-mail to ASK-GMD@dhs.gov.